



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Office of Public Affairs
Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Illinois, Indiana
Michigan, Minnesota
Ohio, Wisconsin

Crews Installing City Water to Residents Affected by Ground-Water Contamination West KL Avenue Landfill Superfund Site

Kalamazoo, Michigan

August 1999

The West KL Avenue Landfill was first operated as a private dump then as a Sanitary Landfill by Oshtemo Township and Kalamazoo County. Ground-water contamination linked to the landfill led to closure of the landfill in 1979. An investigation of the landfill and the ground water revealed ground-water contamination to the west and southwest of the landfill. Due to this contamination, city water lines were extended along KL Avenue, 4th Street, and Almena Drive, and the county began monitoring private wells located downgradient of the landfill. In October 1998, contamination was detected in the Springwood Hills Subdivision northwest of the landfill. In order to prevent residents from coming into contact with contaminated ground water, city water lines are now being extended into areas that have already been, or in the future could be, affected by contamination from the landfill. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the KL Avenue Group (a group of parties considered potentially responsible for the contamination) are also developing a comprehensive plan to deal with the source of the contamination (the landfill) and existing ground-water contamination.

Who will be connected to city water?

Homes located in the highlighted areas (the service zone) on the map on page 2 of this fact sheet have been offered the opportunity to connect to city water lines. Oshtemo Township officials have contacted homeowners affected by the contamination to determine if they are interested in being hooked up to city water. The areas selected were those that have either already shown contamination or are thought to be in areas that could become contaminated in the future. Vacant properties will not be connected.

When will city water lines be installed?

The installation of the water lines has begun. Pipes and hydrants have been placed along some of the roads, and portions of the water main have been installed. The installation of the lines began in the southeast portion of the service zone and will move toward the northwest. The projected installation schedule is as follows:

- In August 1999, all crews will work on water main line installations.
- By the end of August 1999, one crew will begin installing service lines to homes.
- By October/November 1999, most of the service lines will be completed.
- By December 1999/January 2000, hookups to most residences in the service zone will be completed.

Who will pay for the water lines?

All properties within the service zone that currently have water supplied by an existing well, or that have applied for the necessary permits for construction of a well will be connected to the system without charge to the owner. The project is being funded by the KL Avenue Group.

Will I be able to keep my existing well?

The offer of connecting to city water lines without charge to the owner is contingent upon the owner's agreement to take any existing well on the property out of service. The KL Avenue Group's contractor will properly close the wells at no cost to the homeowner.

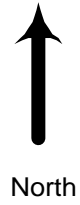
What if contamination spreads beyond the service zone?

As part of the overall cleanup of the West KL Avenue Landfill, monitoring wells will be installed to track any potential spreading of the contamination. If the contamination appears to spread outside of the service

Continued on page 3

Map of Area to Receive City Water (Service Zone)

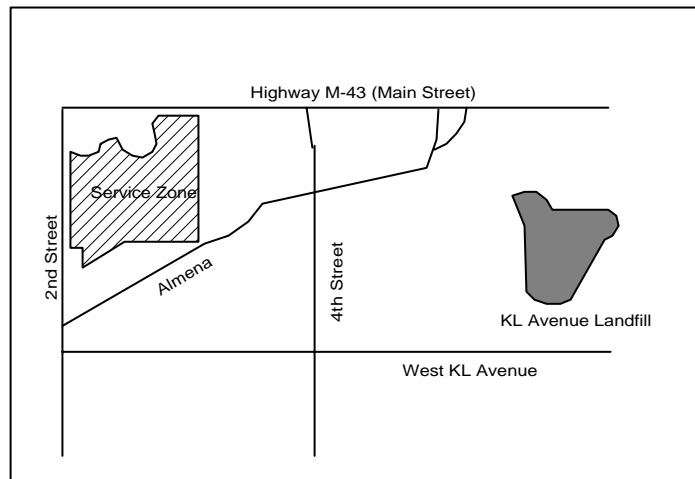
Highway M-43 (Main Street)



Key



Service Zone



Continued from page 1 _____

zone, U.S. EPA will evaluate appropriate responses at that time. Homes with wells currently being monitored that are not being hooked up to city water lines, will also continue to be monitored for potential contamination.

What if I don't want city water?

A homeowner may reject the offer for connection to the city water lines if the owner so chooses. However, if an owner elects not to connect to the system at this time, subsequent connection will be at the owner's expense.

If my home is outside the service zone, can I still connect to the city water lines?

Properties outside of the service zone, but with direct access to the water line may elect to connect at this time at their own expense.

Availability Sessions

U.S. EPA will be holding a series of availability sessions to explain the on-going project to install water lines as well as the investigation and cleanup of the landfill and ground water. Availability sessions are informal, open-house style meetings during which members of the community can meet one-on-one with U.S. EPA representatives.

Dates: 2nd Wednesday of each month
through the duration of the project,
beginning on September 8, 1999.

Location: Oshtemo Township Building
7275 W. Main Street
Kalamazoo, MI

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

For questions regarding the availability sessions, contact Jennifer Ostermeier. See the back page of this fact sheet for contact information for Jennifer.

U.S. EPA would like to hear from you!

U.S. EPA is in the process of revising the Community Involvement Plan for the West KL Avenue Landfill Superfund Site. Community input is crucial to the development of the plan.

The purpose of the plan is to provide U.S. EPA with information about community concerns and enhance communication between area residents and U.S. EPA. U.S. EPA wants to involve the public in activities and decisions related to the cleanup of Superfund sites. Residents provide valuable information on local history, citizen involvement, and site conditions. By identifying the public's concerns, U.S. EPA is able to more effectively address the community's needs.

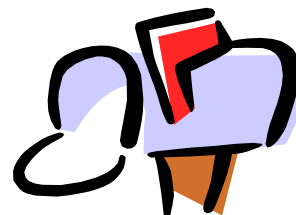
U.S. EPA representatives will be coming to Kalamazoo sometime in the next couple of months and would like to meet with area residents and officials one-on-one to discuss their concerns regarding the investigation and cleanup of the West KL Avenue Landfill site. If you are interested in meeting with U.S. EPA, please contact Jennifer Ostermeier. Contact information for Jennifer is listed on the back page of this fact sheet.

Mailing List

If you did not receive this fact sheet in the mail, then you are not on our mailing list. If you would like to receive fact sheets, progress reports, and community meeting information for the West KL Avenue Landfill Superfund Site, please complete this form and mail to:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Affiliation _____

Jennifer Ostermeier
Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of Public Affairs (P-19J)
U.S. EPA Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590



For More Information

For more information about the plan for providing city water, or any other aspects of the West KL Avenue Landfill project, please contact:

Jennifer Ostermeier
Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of Public Affairs (P-19J)
U.S. EPA Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590
Phone: (312) 353-0618 or
(800) 621-8431 ext. 30618
Fax: (312) 353-1155
Email: ostermeier.jennifer@epa.gov

Mark Henry
Project Manager
Environmental Response Division
MDEQ
KNAPPS Centre
P.O. Box 30426
Lansing, MI 48909-7926
Phone: (517) 335-3390
Fax: (517) 335-4887
Email: henryma@state.mi.us



Tim Prendiville
Remedial Project Manager
Office of Superfund (SR-6J)
U.S. EPA Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590
Phone: (312) 886-5122
Fax: (312) 353-5541
Email: prendiville.timothy@epa.gov

Information Repository

U.S. EPA has established a file called an information repository for the West KL Avenue Landfill Superfund Site. The information repository contains documents related to the project and the Superfund Program. The repository is located at:

Oshtemo Branch
Kalamazoo Public Library
7265 West Main Street
Kalamazoo, MI

Web Site

This and additional updates can also be found on the following Kalamazoo County web site:

www.kalcounty.com

Click on Department Services, Human Services Department, and then What's New to reach information listed under Springwood Lake.



Official Business
Penalty for Private Use - \$300

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
Office of Public Affairs (P-19J)
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590



Reproduced on Recycled Paper